

Minutes from the Concordia Council on Student Life Meeting Held on March 7, 2014 H-769 10:00 A.M.

Present: Mr. Andrew Woodall (Chair), Ms. Lisa Fortin (Secretary), Mr. Patrick Boivin, Ms. Brigitte St-Laurent, Ms. Melanie Drew, Ms. Anna Barrafato, Dr. Cameron Skinner, Ms. Katrina Caruso, Ms. Crystal Harrison, Ms. Alanna Stacey, Mr. Justin Occhionero, Mr. Vignesh Shankar, Ms. Guylaine Beaudry, Ms. Jenessa Speed, Mr. Guy Fontaine.

Absent with Regrets: Mr. Bradley Tucker, Ms. Lisa Ostiguy, Mr. Howard Magonet, Ms. Stephanie Sarik, Ms. Nadine Montour, Mr. Brad Nelson, Ms. Hannah Hackney, Ms. Marie-Josée Allard, Ms. Lorraine Toscano, Mr. Brad Skog, Mr. Daniel Houde.

Absent: Ms. Maylene Crytren, Ms. Yoko Yanagimura, Ms. Elizabeth White, Ms. Claudie Boujakian, Ms. Sharon Hunter, Ms. Tanya Poletti.

1.Approval of Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M. Quorum was achieved at 10:15

Mr. Shankar moved to approve the agenda, with Ms. Drew seconding.

The motion passed unanimously.

2.Remarks from the Chair

In the absence of quorum and due to time constraints, the Chair reported that there would likely be an additional meeting for final decisions. He noted that a Doodle poll with two possible meeting dates had been sent out and encouraged everyone to respond. Mr. Woodall also noted that the meeting would consist of presentations from the groups of about 3 to 4 minutes each, with a 5-minute question period, followed by a deliberation of 5 to 7 minutes.

Observing that there was a great deal to cover, Mr. Woodall suggested that presentations begin.

3.Approval of Minutes form the Meeting of January 17, 2014

Ms. Harrison moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Occhinerro.

The motion passed unanimously.

4.Business arising from the Minutes of January 17, 2014

There was no business arising.

5. Reports and Items of Information

The Chair reported that there was approximately \$70,000 left over from the CCSL Special Project Fund to disperse for Winter requests. He noted the sub-committee had already dispersed \$32,000 for projects requesting \$5,000 and under, and had there was a total of \$38,000 to disperse to projects over \$5,000. The Chair reported that the total amount requested for the over \$5,000 projects was \$111,000, and that many of the requests were recurring, with the exception of the Outdoor Skating Rink and the Rooftop Garden.

Mr. Woodall highlighted that if there were any conflicts of interest should be noted.

Presentations from applicants requesting over \$5,000 for Winter 2014.

Engineering Week presented by Jonathan Ladouceur and Antonin Picou

Questions Period

- Engineering Week has been running many years.
- CCSL funded in 2009-2010 for \$500, 2010-2011 for \$2,000 and 2011-2012 for \$1,500.
- They seek funds to expand the number of activities from what was originally planned and for which they had budgeted.
- They are considering raising their fee-levy in the future. There is also interest from potential sponsors (ie Banque Nationale).
- Without CCSL, they will have to scale back on other events this year.
- The speaker was a big expense and they didn't charge any entrance.

Private Discussion

- These are successful, fun and engaging events that generate a lot of buzz and positive advertising for CU.
- Impacts many students
- They saved money.
- CCSL is for start-ups and they have received funding in at least three previous years. However, there are a lot of events that cannot generate their own revenue.
- They have to learn to budget (it should be based on something that can be realized) even if event is growing.
- This has to be the last year and future new execs must know that CCSL won't fund again.
- In the past we have decreased funding and warned that future funding was not guaranteed.
- They should be looking at generating more revenue. People might be willing to pay for certain things.

Suggestions

- Last year of funding
- Amounts put on the table: 1K, 2.1K, 2.5K, 2.6K, 3K, 4K (since they went bigger this year)
- Wean them off.
- Something but not whole ask.
- They should increase the fee levy and seek out potential partnerships

Concordia Galapagos Project presented by Mathieu and Philip Van de Wille

Questions Period

- Recurring project since 2007-\$900-2010-11, \$1,000 2009-10, \$2,500 2008-09
- Usually funded independently; looking at new sources of funding this year.
- Whatever they can't cover by fundraising is out-of-pocket.
- Students were asked to allocate 3K for plan ticket etc.
- Total amount was down from 48K to 45K as one student dropped out.
- Trip from May 9 to June 9.
- They were looking into getting credited
- They have 4 groups fundraising but did no numbers to report yet. They were all fundraising independently.

Private discussion

- Very difficult to fund this group.
- Similar to CVAP which funds their trips all out of pocket and do a ton of fundraising events.
- Only 15 students and a great deal of money.
- Traditionally CCSL does not fund trips like these.
- CCSL Special Projects sub-committee rejected to all similar projects under \$5.
- Little effect on student life.
- Interesting. Deals with personal growth and is an enriching experience.
- Is there a forum within the University for projects such as this to receiving assistance as they are valuable and bring back to community?
- The trip is also open to students outside of Biology.

Suggestions

- No. Council should be consistent but decide for next budget cycle to put "x %" towards trips like this.
- Token or symbolic amount of \$800 or \$900.
- Yes but not fund activities such as scuba diving.

Loyola Outdoor Skating rink presented by Krzysztof Kmiecik

Question Period

- ASFA, CSU and DoS provided funds and Facilities assisted with construction.
- Request to CCSL is 7K to cover the cost of the container for the rink boards and mats. It could be used in future for changing room, possibly with a sliding door and a heated area.
- Recreation & Athletics has identified a space for the container.
- Ideally, R&A would take over the management/responsibility for the rink.
- The long-term goal is to get students involved such as internships or paid positions, to provide managerial experience, etc..
- There are no statistics on usage. It's a pilot project and as such a challenge. The cold winter has been a factor regarding attendance since the rink only went up in February. Attendance would likely be higher if the rink were to be put up earlier and coincided with Frosh, Winter Fest, etc.
- Special events: Stingers practice and game between Facilities and students.
- Currently have 7 volunteers that take care of the rink and supervise.
- The City is not a partner and many of the NDG rinks were not put up.

Private Discussion

- Feedback from students regarding a project was very positive.
- Abstentions: Justin
- Impact of the project is unclear.
- This should be done by R&A.
- Beautiful project particularly since so many NDG rinks are closing.
- The storage locker as changing area is an excellent idea.
- Great opportunity for the students particularly those in Residence.
- Huge initiative and much dedication from students; the organizers were very committed and they got many volunteers, which is often difficult.
- Loyola HS and the residents of NDG could use the rink and the public could be charged a small fee for usage.
- Many events and projects have alcohol tied to them but the rink does not.
- Great example of student life,
- Exercise is important seeing as mental health is a big concern right now.

Suggestions

- Not CCSL's job to fund the entire project.

Concordia SAE presented by Milad Parvizi, Andrea Cartile, and Maxim Kassimov.

Question Period

- Asking for 20K to upgrade and maintain their workshop and to increase their safety measures
- Previous funding from CCSL-\$500 in 2010-2011, and \$3,700 in 2012-2013
- This is a one time purchase with benefits for years to come.

- They are also looking at different distributors and suppliers for support.
- They had applied to the Dean of Eng, but had not received a reply.
- ECA did not provide funding, as they experienced budget problems this year.
- They received only half from the e-fund.
- Two graduate students were involved with SAE.
- They had not approached the GSA.

Private Discussion

- SAE had received funding for 3.7K for 2012-2013 but previous asks unconfirmed.

Rooftop Garden presented by Heather Nagy and Catherine Prevost

Question Period

- Most of the people involved are students from all four Faculties.
- Space approval is currently tentative for the EV 11th but talks with Roger Cote and the Presidents office were positive.
- Backup space is the 4th floor of the JMSB building but there were questions regarding sun, water, irrigation, etc..
- They hoped to be financially sustainable in future years. Prof. Ikeda runs his own rooftop garden which nets \$2k each year.
- They have experts at rooftop gardening involved (Prof. Ikeda, a contact at Dawson College, and two permaculture specialists).
- There is a plan to install trees to address wind issues and engineering students would construct 12 wind guards.
- Food processing could be done at the Perform Centre and stored with the People's Potato and Multi-faith Chaplaincy.
- This is a student group supported by the Greenhouse and Concordia Food Coalition They were talking about incorporating as a non profit and being their own legal entity, ideally by the end of semester.
- They would hopefully not have to worry about security, as they were looking into fencing and plants along edge.
- They want to ensure that the space remains shared with 50 containers placed along the borders of terrace, a pathway for people to walk through and benches.

Private discussion

- Would have a huge effect on many students
- Fits with the current trend towards food issues.
- Security would not be an issue if they install a fence.
- It is a start up and therefore interesting.
- Major reservations regarding the feasibility of the project.
- They needed more expertise.
- Facilities were interested in the project's success.

Suggestions

- The sub-committee had recommended 4K for planters, contingent on their ability to procure a space
- Funding requires proof that it is feasible, viable and financially sustainable.
- Give 'X' amount contingent on CCSL's reservations being addressed.
- They were trying hard so give them a basic amount to start up.

Sur l'île presented by Shahab Mihandoust and Meryam Joobeur

Question Period

- Collaborative feature film started in 2012 consisting of 5 short films which will be assembled to make one seamless film. Project has four phases.
- The films look at diversity in Montreal and involve many departments within Concordia.
- They want \$7K for post-production and editing, including software, space and honoraria for the editing (800 hrs of work).
- The software is not available on campus and they need their own suite for that amount of time. They could get a student license.
- 70 students had submitted work and 50 students are working on the film- mostly undergraduates.
- There will be two screenings on campus when finished.
- Goal is to release it on the internet with a publicity campaign.
- They had received funding in 2012-2013 and will not be coming back.
- They had applied for a grant from the National Theatre School.
- They don't intend to sell the DVD's so as to ensure access for students.
- They did not know about distribution but there was potential for the film in large film festivals.
- Their main goal was to provide visibility to Concordia students.

Private Discussion

- CCSL gave \$2K in Fall 2012.
- FOFA has no money for these kinds of projects
- Sur l'île got money from FASA last year.
- Fair amount of money towards labour.
- The issue of access to computers and time to use them is real.
- Project affects a lot of people
- The rationale of diversity is timely.
- Good idea to give film back to the students later on.
- It has potential for film festivals.

Suggestions

- Yes since it was not a personal project.

CSU speaker series presented by Caroline Caroline Boubonniere and Scott Carr

Question Period

- CSU Speaker Series is an out of classroom event that focused on oratory and storytelling and engaged Concordia's diverse community.
- Previous funding from CCSL-\$25,000 in 2008, and \$40,000 in 2009-2010.
- Focus was on issues of social justice and history.
- They had improved the representation at Concordia and spent less on events.
- Most of the \$58K went to speakers. It was necessary to ensure quality speakers and to improve the outside the classroom experience
- \$25K had been allocated at the beginning of the year and this was increased to 32K when they were able to secure higher profile speakers.
- CSU collaborated with other organizations at the university.
- Normally the Series receives external funding.
- CSU had funds remaining in its budget which were allocated for specific things already approved by students. They are unable to touch many of the other budget lines. It has been a tough year financially with limited funding.
- The Back-up fund is to purchase assets and can't be used for the Speaker Series.
- The Series is a recurring project which should be in their core operating budget.
- The Series improved Concordia University's reputation, put us on the map and positively contributes to Student life.

Private Discussion:

- It was not up to CCSL cover a shortfall caused by insufficient budgeting.
- CSU gets the most money of all the student associations.
- The speaker Series has received a lot of CCSL funding in the past.
- The Series comes up often and if it is a core part of the mission, it has to be built into their budget.
- It was a major initiative with 6 speakers.
- CSU did not have names of speakers when they made their budget.
- The speakers were amazing.
- CCSL is for start-ups and should focus on assisting small groups get projects of the ground.
- They should be budgeting better.
- There was a big difference between some groups' speaker fees of \$1K and the CSU Speaker Series of \$25K.
- if they don't get funding, they could ask Council to reallocate funds from campaigns to student life.

Suggestions

- Council should wait to see what is remaining once all other decisions have been made.

6.Next meeting

To be determined

7.Termination of the meeting

Ms. Drew motioned the end of the meeting at 12:10 P.M., with Mr. Shankar seconding the motion.